AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (*Currently amended*) An image processing method, comprising the steps of:

receiving specification of a first area having a desired color-tone in a displayed image;

receiving specification of a second area in the image or in another image; and

changing a color-tone of a desired area including the second area into the color-tone of the first area based on cumulative histograms of colors of the first and second areas.

2.   (*Currently amended*) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

display means for image display;

area specification means for specifying a first area having a desired color-tone in an image displayed on the display means and a second area in the image or in another image; and

conversion means for converting a color-tone of a desired area including the second area into the color-tone of the first area based on cumulative histograms of colors of the first and second areas.

3.   (*Currently amended*) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program to cause a computer to execute the procedures of:

receiving specification of a first area having a desired color-tone in a displayed image;

receiving specification of a second area in the image or in another image; and

changing a color-tone of a desired area including the second area into the color-tone of the first area based on cumulative histograms of colors of the first and second areas.

4.   (*New*) An image processing method, comprising the steps of:

receiving specification of a first area having a desired color-tone in a displayed image;

receiving specification of a second area in the image or in another image; and

changing a color-tone of a desired area including the second area into the color-tone of the first area,

wherein the color-tone of the second area is changed gradually at a boundary of the second area.

5.   (*New*) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

display means for image display;

area specification means for specifying a first area having a desired color-tone in an image displayed on the display means and a second area in the image or in another image; and

conversion means for converting a color-tone of a desired area including the second area into the color-tone of the first area,

wherein the color-tone of the second area is changed gradually at a boundary of the second area.

6.   (*New*) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program to cause a computer to execute the procedures of:

receiving specification of a first area having a desired color-tone in a displayed image;

receiving specification of a second area in the image or in another image; and

changing a color-tone of a desired area including the second area into the color-tone of the first area,

wherein the color-tone of the second area is changed gradually at a boundary of the second area.